THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It would not be in the national interest to give details of such joint exercises.

(d) No, Sir. No such joint exercises have been carried out recently between India and Pakistan.

(e) Does not arise.

Setting up new Coast Guard Stations

792. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up 10 new coast guard stations along different coasts of the country to check the rising smuggling activity and to facilitate greater maritime operations;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) whether the Ministry has got the approval from the Ministry of Finance?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) A proposal to set up 10 new Boat Stations by Coast Guard in a phased manner is being processed. The places tentatively selected are :—

West Coast -Vadinar (Gujarat), Jafarabad or Pipavav (Gujarat), Ratnagiri (Maharashtra), Bhatkal or Malpe (Karnataka), Beypore (Kerala) and Kavaratti in Lakshadeep.

East Coast - Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh), Gopalpur (Orissa) and Pondicherry.

Andaman & Nicobar - Kamorta.

Induction of IL-78 Aircraft

793. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) by when the Indian Air Force will induct IL-78 aircraft;

(b) by when the Air Force is going to get Mirage 2000 fighters fitted with air-to-air refuelling capability; and